



CENTRAL SIERRA
Continuum
of CARE

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209-533-1397 x251
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Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa and Tuolumne Counties

Working together to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness in the Central Sierra Foothills

**RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
HHAP ROUND 3**

Please use this format for your response to the HHAP Round 3 RFP

SECTION ONE

COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED: (check only one)

- Amador
- Calaveras
- Mariposa
- Tuolumne

Applicant Information:

Organization Name: Tuolumne County

Contact Person: Michael Roberson

Contact Information: email: mroberson@co.tuolumne.ca.us phone: (209) 533-5533

Address: 2 South Green Street Sonora, CA 95370

Authorized Signer: Tracie Riggs/Tuolumne County Administrator email: triggs@co.tuolumne.ca.us

Dollar Amount Requested: \$465,613.93

Number of Clients to be Served: Up to 60 at a time. As clients are connected to temporary or permanent housing room will be available to serve more clients at the Safe Stay Shelter.



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Statement of Agreement:

I, Tracie Riggs _____ agree with the requirements as stipulated in this Request for Proposal.
Authorized Signer Name

I also agree with the Central Sierra Continuum of Care Strategic Action Plan and the local Homeless Action Plan for the County in which I am applying for funding as evidenced by the need:

Current number of people experiencing homelessness in said County:
266 According to 2022 PIT Count

Current number of people being served in existing programs in said County:
HMIS data shows 151 and CalSAWS data shows over 500. Some of these numbers may be duplicative.

Gap in services in said County:
Outreach, Case Management/Staff Capacity, Emergency Shelter Beds, Transitional Housing Beds

Authorized Signature: *Tracie M. Riggs* _____ Date: *8/24/22* _____



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SECTION TWO

Narrative: (please type in the box your response(s)).

An outline of proposed uses of funds requested and an explanation of how the proposed use of funds will complement existing local, state, and federal funds and equitably close the gaps identified in the local homelessness action plan for demographic subpopulations that are underserved.

Respond to all that apply: (Refer to page 3 of the Instructions)

| PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS | Explanation of how funds will complement existing funds and close identified gaps |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Rapid Rehousing | |
| Operating Subsidies | |
| Street Outreach | |
| Service Coordination | |
| Systems Support | |
| Delivery of Permanent Housing | |
| Prevention and Shelter Diversion | |
| Interim Sheltering | <p><i>Funds will be used for the development of the Safe Stay Emergency Shelter to include infrastructure and shelter buildings. Monies from both HHAP-3 County allocation and CSCOC allocation (if awarded), Permanent Local Housing Allocation and ATCAD's contribution of HHAP-2 funds will be used to support efforts to create emergency shelter beds which are severely lacking in Tuolumne County. Tuolumne County will increase outreach to disproportionately affected and underserved populations, including individuals suffering from mental health and substance abuse issues, the tribal community, people who are Black/African American, unaccompanied youth and parenting youth ages 18-24, and non-English speaking individuals as identified in the local homelessness action plan.</i></p> |
| Improvements | |



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If awarded, applicants MUST comply with the following: if you agree, initialing each box (electronic or in ink):

Initials

| | |
|---|----|
| <p>Housing First: All projects must provide housing and services that are Housing First compliant, per Health and Safety Code Section 5022.5(g), and delivered in a low barrier, trauma informed, and culturally responsive manner. Individuals and families assisted with these funds will not be required to receive treatment or perform any other prerequisite activities as a condition for receiving shelter, housing, or other services for which these funds are used. Housing First will be adopted including outreach and emergency shelter, short-term interventions like rapid rehousing, and longer-term interventions like supportive housing.</p> | TR |
| <p>Prioritization: Applicants are strongly encouraged to prioritize the use of HHAP funds to assist people experiencing literal homelessness move into safe, stable housing, with a particular focus on rehousing individuals currently living in Project Roomkey (PRK) sites. HHAP funding should be housing-focused – either funding permanent housing interventions directly or, if used for shelter or street outreach, have clear pathways to connect people to permanent housing options.</p> | TR |
| <p>Youth Set Aside: All programs require use of at least ten percent (10%) of the allocation for services for homeless youth populations, which are defined as unaccompanied youth who are between 12 and 24 years old and experiencing homelessness. Funds spent under this provision must still also comply with the eligible use requirements above.</p> | TR |
| <p>Coordinated Entry System (CES) and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS): Awarded projects must participate in the CES and HMIS as required by the CSCoC.</p> | TR |
| <p>Administrative Costs: No more than seven percent (7%) of funding may be expended on administrative costs.</p> | TR |



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Describe your partnership(s) with or plans to use funding to increase partnership with local health, behavioral health, social services, and justice entities and with people with lived experiences of homelessness.

The following entities have contributed and to the plans for the County's first Safe Stay Community: The Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors, The Tuolumne County Administrator and staff, The Tuolumne County Commission on Homelessness (which includes members with lived experience, non-profit service providers, tribal entities, City of Sonora representatives, Tuolumne County Health & Human Services Agency (HHS), Tuolumne County Community Development Department, Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency. HHS is committed to provide Navigation services at the shelter site. Local non-profit service providers will be supported to offer all available services at the site.

Describe specific actions you will take to ensure racial and gender equity in service delivery, housing placements, and housing retention and changes to procurement or other means of affirming racial and ethnic groups that are overrepresented among residents experiencing homelessness have equitable access to housing and services.

Tuolumne County will increase outreach to disproportionately affected populations, including individuals suffering from mental health and substance abuse issues, the tribal community, people who are Black/African American, unaccompanied youth and parenting youth ages 18-24, and non-English speaking individuals.

Describe how you will make progress in preventing exits to homelessness from institutional settings, including plans to leverage funding from mainstream systems for evidence-based housing and housing-based solutions to homelessness.

CSCoC counties, including Tuolumne, are working toward the goal of reducing the number of persons who return to homelessness after exiting homelessness to permanent housing by 25% (to 9%). Baseline data provided by Cal ICH shows that 28% of shelter exits are to temporary destinations. This information is accurate due to existing shelters inputting this data into the HMIS throughout the baseline data collection period. Funding is planned to increase targeted case management services and landlord liaison efforts, focusing on underserved populations including adults without children and people who are Black/African American. Unaccompanied youth and parenting youth ages 18-24 years will also be targeted. CDSS has established multiple funding sources including BFH, HSP, HDAP, and HSAPS for housing stabilization and homelessness prevention services. These efforts will assist in lowering the percentage of people who return to homelessness.



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SECTION THREE

Please complete OUTCOMES for all that apply to this request for funding:

| GOAL | OUTCOME |
|---|---|
| <p>1. <i>Reducing the number of persons experiencing homelessness</i> a: Annual number of people accessing services who are experiencing homelessness b: Daily estimate of number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness</p> | |
| <p>2. <i>Reduce the number of people who become homeless for the first time</i></p> | |
| <p>3. <i>Increasing the number of people exiting homelessness into permanent housing</i></p> | |
| <p>4. <i>Reducing the length of time persons remain homeless – number of days</i></p> | |
| <p>5. <i>Reducing the number of persons who return to homelessness after exiting homelessness</i></p> | |
| <p>6. <i>Increasing successful placements from street outreach – to emergency, interim, or permanent housing</i></p> | <p><i>Increased by 6000%* (From 0-60)</i></p> |

**An increase from 0-60 as a percentage is misleading as adding just 1 from 0 is a 100% increase. Up to 60 clients at a time will be served. As clients are connected to temporary or permanent housing, room will be available to serve more clients at the Safe Stay Shelter increasing the overall number of clients served to greater than 60 if other types of housing are available.*



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SECTION FOUR

Describe how this project will be sustained in the future:

There are a variety of State & Federal funding sources (HHAP-3 County allocation and CSCOC allocation (if awarded), Permanent Local Housing Allocation and ATCAA's contribution of HHAP-2 funds, ESG-CY) that will be braided together to provide both direct support services and operation. American Rescue Act funds are available for Tuolumne County at the discretion of the Board of Supervisors and is under consideration. The California Interagency Council on Homelessness has announced that they will be releasing a NOFA in November 2022 related to funding streams to include Encampment Resolution Funds (ERF). \$300 million will be allocated for 2022-23 and \$400 million for 2022-24. There is also significant effort being extended by Tuolumne County Staff and collaborative partners in increasing permanent housing through partnering with developers to build multi-unit workforce housing. One of the collaborative partners is the Stanislaus Regional Housing Authority.

Describe your management and past experience with similar projects:

Tuolumne County Behavioral Health has effectively and successfully operated two separate housing projects that provide permanent supportive housing for individuals with disabilities. These projects began in 2010 and are supported by the Tuolumne County Behavioral Health budget with funding streams that allow for supportive services. Furthermore, Tuolumne County Health & Human Services Agency consistently provides services consistent with funding sources from the California Department of Social Services and is in compliance with the operational and reporting standards to the State for the millions of dollars that they call down annually.



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Financial Information: has your organization done an organization audit to meet federal, state or local requirements Yes No

If yes: Provide date and type of most recent audit. If there are unresolved findings, list them and provide a brief narrative as to how they will be resolved and by what date:

Fiscal Year 2019 was submitted to the State Auditor's and all findings were cleared.

Fiscal year 2020 will be submitted to the State Auditor by August 1, 2022.

Fiscal year 2021 is not due to be submitted until the end of December 2022.

If no: Provide information regarding conducting an audit after the first year if awarded or obtain a letter of support from a CSCoC member in good standing that will include your HHAP funding in their audit process.

| HHAP Round 3 Budget | County of Tuolumne | | | Tuolumne | | | Total all years |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--|-----------------|
| | FY 21/23 | FY 22/23 | FY 23/34 | FY 24/25 | FY 25/26 | | |
| Eligible Use Category | | | | | | | |
| Rapid Rehousing | | | | | | | |
| Youth Set Aside | | | | | | | |
| Operating Subsidies | | | | | | | |
| Youth Set Aside | | | | | | | |
| Street Outreach | | | | | | | |
| Youth Set Aside | | | | | | | |
| Services Coordination | | | | | | | |
| Youth Set Aside | | | | | | | |
| Systems Support | | | | | | | |
| Youth Set Aside | | | | | | | |
| Delivery of Permanent Housing | | | | | | | |
| Youth Set Aside | | | | | | | |



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| | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Prevention and Shelter Diversion | | | | | | | | |
| Youth Set Aside | | | | | | | | |
| Interim Shelter | | | | | | | | |
| 10% Youth Set Aside | 386,462.88 | | | | | | | |
| Shelter Improvements to Lower Barriers and Increase Privacy | | | | | | | | |
| Youth Set Aside | 46,561.79 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 7% Administration | | | | | | | | |
| | 32,593.26 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 465,617.93 | | | | | | | |
| Total Youth Set Aside | 46,561.79 | | | | | | | |

Budget Narrative: Provide a narrative of each budget line item including the amount and information regarding salaries and/or details of how funds will be used to achieve the Outcomes identified in your proposal:

Interim Shelter:

In response to Governor Newsom’s declaration of a shelter crisis in the state of California and pursuant to the Government Code 8698.2, The Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors (BOS) approved a resolution on May 4, 2021, related to building code and housing standards known as Appendices X & O allowing for the use of county properties as emergency shelters. On December 21, 2021, the BOS approved a recommendation from the Tuolumne County Commission on Homelessness (TCCOH) regarding endorsing the concept of a sanctioned and managed campground-style site as a minimum level of outdoor shelter for people experiencing homelessness and authorized TCCOH to identify potential sites and site management in collaboration with county stakeholders. Tuolumne County Health & Human Services staff have severely limited options for emergency and transitional housing options as a part of case management for the homeless in Tuolumne County.



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As a result of Tuolumne County's shelter crisis and severe lack of affordable housing within the county, homeless encampments have been, and continue to be created by individuals seeking shelter. These homeless encampments create a risk to public health and safety due to the accumulation of human waste and garbage, infestations by rodents and pests, fires and property damage. Due to recent caselaw (Martin v. City of Boise (9th Cir. 2019) 920 F. 3d 584), the county cannot force individuals to leave these encampments for purposes of cleaning or relocating people, without offering alternative shelter. Unfortunately, the county currently lacks appropriate shelter to achieve these goals. Establishing a Safe Stay Pallet Shelter Community would allow homeless individuals an opportunity to move to a safer, cleaner and properly managed community, which would benefit the homeless community and the county as a whole. It would also allow the County to enforce code violations, because once alternative shelter is available, the County will be able to offer this space to individuals who are required to leave areas so that cleanup can occur.

On August 2, 2022, the BOS approved a staff recommendation to locate the Safe Stay Pallet Shelter Community at a parcel of County-owned land in Jamestown, California. Tuolumne County staff is currently working on the build out of this plan and developing costing proposals for infrastructure. The purchase of pallet shelters, showers, toilets, sinks, laundry facilities and a community meeting room totals approximately \$610,000. The proposed "Safe Stay Pallet Shelter Community" would be an interim shelter with low barrier entry in a safe and sanitary environment. Tuolumne County Health & Human Services Agency staff would provide occupants with onsite case management and connections to County social services, behavioral health services, public health services as well as connections to benefits like CalFresh, CalWORKS, Medi-Cal, linkages to transitional housing, and flexible funding to help support transition into permanent housing. Ultimately, these sites should be considered as steppingstones to stabilize and support individuals on a pathway to permanent housing.

Pallet Shelters (palletshelter.com) is sole-source public benefit organization that creates scalable & affordable shelters. The shelters can be assembled in an hour, offer a locking door & window, air conditioning & heat, bed & mattress, shelves, & a charging port. Each cabin is 64 square feet and will house 1-2 people. Since the Safe Stay Community is intended to be an interim solution between unsheltered homelessness and traditional housing, the facilities will be temporary as well, as compared to a traditionally constructed, permanent shelter. Plans for 30 Pallet Shelters and 7 Recreational Trailers are being considered as well as a "brief-stay" tent area.



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Current budget projections are around one million dollars not including the cost of management. Funds from this grant will be combined with funds on hand to complete a service agreement to order the shelter buildings and begin work on the site development and infrastructure build-out.

Youth Set Aside:

Non-minor youth will be given access to the shelter site through the support of HHSa and all efforts for engagement into the County system of care will be made.

Administration:

Administration funds will be used to support administrative work by Tuolumne County Homeless Services Coordinator and other administrative staff. These efforts are not related to direct support but rather the planning and implementation of development and operations of the Safe Stay Shelter Community.

¹ U.S. Code, Title 31, Section 3729, False Claims, provides a civil penalty of not less than \$5,000 and not more than \$10,000, plus 3 times the amount of damages for any person who knowingly presents, or causes to be presented, a false or fraudulent claim; or who knowingly makes, or causes to be used, a false record or statement; or conspires to defraud the Government by getting a false or fraudulent claim allowed or paid. HUD will prosecute false claims and statements and conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| County of Tuolumne | Name of Agency | Tracie Riggs, County Administrator | Typed Name and Title of Agency Official | <i>Tracie M Riggs</i> | Date of Signature | 8/24/22 | Agency Official's Signature | 209.533.5511 | Phone Number of Agency Official | triggs@co.tuolumne.ca.us | E-Mail Address of Agency Official |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|

- The undersigned agency hereby certifies that:
- The information contained herein and in the attached is complete and accurate. No material information has been omitted, including financial information.
 - The agency certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief that its principals are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal debarment or agency.
 - The agency shall comply with all federal and County policies and reporting requirements applicable to the HHAP program as appropriate for the funding if received.
 - If HHAP funds are approved in the requested amount, then to the best of your knowledge, sufficient funds will be available to complete the project as proposed.
 - The agency certifies that the funded program will participate in the CSCoC approved CBS and HMIS system.

The following certification **must** be completed and signed by an authorized agency representative to be further considered for HHAP program funding.

Certifications

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APPEAL PROCESS

The applicant shall make a written request to the CSCoC Governing Board, setting forth, in detail, the specific grounds for challenging the CSCoC Governing Boards decision to deny funding. The appeal shall be filed within 10 business days following the date of the written notification from the CSCoC Governing Board that the applicant's proposal has not been awarded funding, or not awarded the amount in their application.

An appeal regarding the CSCoC's decision to reject a proposal or award shall contain the following items:

1. Identification of the RFP (i.e., title and/or service description and issue date);
2. The specific grounds for challenging the rejection or intended contract award, including all arguments, materials and/or other documentation that may support the protester's position that the contract award should be rescinded; and
3. A statement as to whether the protesting applicant requests an opportunity for oral presentation and the reason(s) for the request.

Once the Governing Board has received the written appeal with all required documentation, the Governing Board may place on their next regular meeting Agenda the item to discuss – uphold original decision – or - rescind original decision. If original decision is upheld no further action is required. If decision is to rescind original decision, award will be revised and approved at the next Governing Board meeting following the decision to rescind. Funding awarded affected by the appeal process will be on hold until such time as a final decision is made.



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CSCoC CA-526 Homeless Housing, Prevention & Assistance Program Priorities

- 1) **Low Barrier Emergency Shelter:** Providing low barrier access to emergency shelter. Low barrier access means the expectations placed on shelter guests should be minimal, transparent, and reasonable. Intake, screening, and assessment processes should reflect the CSCoC's Housing First orientation to helping everyone seeking shelter and assistance connect as quickly as possible with permanent housing. Low barrier shelters accommodate partners, pets and possessions of persons seeking shelter. More information may be found at:
<https://www.usich.gov/solutions/crisis-response/emergency-shelter/>
- 2) **Coordinated Entry:** Coverage of full geography of CSCoC to promote access to shelter and housing resources with the utilization of HMIS. Coverage of full geography of the CSCoC means that all funded programs within the full geographic coverage of the CSCoC is required to participate in Coordinated Entry.
- 3) **Street Outreach:** Dedicated street outreach to connect with unsheltered persons including persons in homeless encampments. Goals should be to connect persons to shelter, housing and other resources. Priority need for outreach that covers all parts of the county with evening and weekend hours.
- 4) **Housing Locators:** Dedicated staff to identify housing opportunities including engaging landlords and housing partners and providing the link between housing providers and service providers. Programs must integrate into the larger service system bringing available units to the coordinated entry system.
- 5) **Housing Navigators:** Dedicated service providers to serve as case managers focused on housing needs from the time a person enters through the coordinated entry system until they are connected with a housing resource. These service providers assist with collecting eligibility documentation, applying for eligible housing programs, linking to shelter, employment and other resources.



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- 6) **Homeless Prevention & Diversion:** Program to provide flexible financial assistance to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless including services that divert individuals and families from the homeless service system through a variety of problem-solving solutions. Homeless Prevention funding may not be used for short term or intermediate term housing, specifically rental assistance. At this time all short term and intermediate term rental assistance must go through ERAP Emergency Rental Assistance Program begin offered by the State of California:
<https://www.centraisierracoc.org/erap>
- 7) **Supportive Services for Permanent Supportive Housing Programs:** housing-focused, engaging services focused on helping tenants remain housed and linking to desired programs and services to support housing retention. Services should be designed to support the most vulnerable households in achieving their housing goals. Proposals will be accepted for expansion of services in existing programs that need additional service capacity and new programs including voucher programs and project-based housing.
- 8) **Permanent Supportive Housing Programs:** New supportive housing programs to serve chronically homeless adults. Referrals will come through the coordinated entry prioritization process.
- 9) **Flexible housing subsidies/rental assistance** including **Master Leasing** and **Rapid Re-Housing** assistance. Master leasing program should include property management and supportive services assistance to pair with supportive housing vouchers including VASH. Rapid Re-Housing program proposals should include ability to expand capacity and provide longer/deeper financial subsidies to serve the most vulnerable individuals and families.